

election. Our committee is conducting this investigation under the authority given the Senate pursuant to article 1, section 5 of the Constitution of the United States.

Briefly recapping, I reported on May 8 of the committee's efforts to secure a bipartisan investigation. On May 23, I reported our efforts to obtain the detail of FBI agents to the committee and the agreement to issue over 130 subpoenas, although for election records only. Then, on June 26, I reported that the Rules Committee Democrats had, unexpectedly, withdrawn from the investigation—after only 2 weeks of committee action in the field. FBI support, likewise, was terminated by the Attorney General.

I also reported that the results of the investigation had revealed a significant failure, by election officials, in numerous Louisiana statutory provisions designed to safeguard the election from voter fraud. Given these numerous breaches of law, although many appeared to be unintentional, I believed the Senate had an obligation to examine a broad number of areas where the potential for fraudulent acts and voting could have occurred.

On July 31, the committee authorized me to continue the preliminary investigation and granted me, by resolution, the authority to issue subpoenas. To date, I have issued 38 subpoenas, in addition to the 134 Senator FORD and I jointly agreed to issue, which have resulted in thousands of pages of documents as well as the appearance of numerous witnesses at 4 days of hearings held in New Orleans. We have received testimony from officials in the LIFE [Louisiana Independent Federation of Electors, Inc.] organization, as well as the owners of Carl Mullican Communications, Inc. [CMC], organizations prominently mentioned in the Jenkins petition and supporting documents.

We have received testimony from representatives of gambling-related companies, witnesses who have voted more than once or had knowledge of those who had, van drivers on election day, and election officials, including one who worked on election day as both an election official and as a canvasser for a gambling company.

Our investigators have also interviewed hundreds of people, regarding allegations of: mismatched signatures, precincts closing beyond the prescribed closing hour, multiple voting, non-compliance with State voting laws, and involvement of gambling industry in the election.

On August 29, GAO detailed three persons to the committee to assist in the examination of election documents received as a result of subpoenas. We are now negotiating for an additional detail of qualified accountants to help examine the subpoenaed gambling industry documents.

We also have requested the Department of Justice to reconsider its withdrawal and to return this case with added support. To date, we have been met with their continued resistance.

As I concluded the second series of Louisiana hearings, on August 27, I stated that further hearings were needed. In consultation with the committee, I will soon set our next hearing.

The pullout of the Democrats, and resultant loss of FBI support have complicated our task, but we are continuing to make progress in this investigation. My goal remains to ensure that the committee's work is performed in keeping with the precedents of the Senate in past election cases and to give the full committee my honest judgment of the established facts. The committee will then report to the full Senate its honest judgment of these facts respecting the Senate's duty under the Constitution of the United States.

Suffice it to say, the results of this investigation to date are as yet incomplete. We do not have that body of facts to convincingly state that fraud or irregularities did, or did not, affect the results of the 1996 election for the U.S. Senator from Louisiana.

As developments occur, of such significance as to inform Senators, I again will give a timely report.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED NATIONS FOR CALNDAR YEAR 1996—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 62

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit herewith a report of the activities of the United States Government in the United Nations and its affiliated agencies during calendar year 1996. The report is required by the United Nations Participation Act (Public Law 264, 79th Congress; 22 U.S.C. 287b).

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 4, 1997.

REPORT OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 63

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 701 of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-454; 5 U.S.C. 7104(e)), I am pleased to transmit the Eighteenth Annual Report of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for Fiscal Year 1996.

The report includes information on the cases heard and decisions rendered by the Federal Labor Relations Authority, the General Counsel of the Authority, and the Federal Service Impasses Panel.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 4, 1997.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:53 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 2702 of title 44, United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101-509, the Clerk of the House appoints the following individual on the part of the House to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. Roger Davidson of Washington, D.C.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2016) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. PACKARD, Mr. PORTER, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. WICKER, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. PARKER, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WAMP, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. HEFNER, Mr. OLVER, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. DICKS, Mr. HOYER, and Mr. OBEY as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message further announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2158) making appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. DELAY, Mr. WALSH, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. STOKES, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. MEEK, Mr. PRICE, and Mr. OBEY as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to bill (H.R. 2160) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural

Development, Food and Drug Administration, and related agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. SKEEN, Mr. WALSH, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FAZIO, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. OBEY as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2169) making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conferences asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. WOLF, Mr. DELAY, Mr. REGULA, Mr. ROGERS, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. SABO, Mr. FOGLIETTA, Mr. TORRES, Mr. OLVER, Mr. PASTOR, and Mr. OBEY as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2203) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. MCDADE, Mr. ROGERS, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. PARKER, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. FAZIO, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. PASTOR, and Mr. OBEY as the managers on the part of the House.

The message further announced that the House disagrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2209) making appropriations for the legislative branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. WALSH, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. WAMP, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. FAZIO, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. OBEY as the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2266) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. MCDADE, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. DICKS, Mr. HEFNER, Mr. SABO, Mr. DIXON, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, and Mr.

OBEY as the managers on the part of the House.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence of the Senate, was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2035. An act to authorize the transfer of naval vessels to certain foreign countries; to the Committee on Armed Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 261. A bill to provide for biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government (Rept. No. 105-72).

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, without amendment and with a preamble:

H.J. Res. 75. A joint resolution to confer status as an honorary veteran of the United States Armed Forces on Leslie Townes (Bob) Hope.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WELLSTONE:

S. 1147. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for nondiscriminatory coverage for substance abuse treatment services under private group and individual health coverage; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. D'AMATO:

S. 1148. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the forfeiture of counterfeit access devices and device-making equipment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. KYL):

S. 1149. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to provide for increased education funding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. HUTCHINSON:

S. Con. Res. 50. A concurrent resolution condemning in the strongest possible terms the bombing in Jerusalem on September 4, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WELLSTONE:

S. 1147. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for nondiscriminatory coverage for substance abuse treatment services under private group and individual health coverage; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT PARITY ACT OF 1997

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce legislation that will ensure that private health insurance companies pay for substance abuse treatment services at the same level that they pay for treatment for other diseases. In other words, it is meant to guarantee that insurance coverage for substance abuse treatment is provided in a nondiscriminatory manner. This bill, the Substance Abuse Parity Act of 1997, provides this assurance.

For too long, the problem of substance abuse has been viewed as a moral issue, rather than a disease. A cloak of secrecy has surrounded this problem, as people who have this disease are often ashamed and afraid to admit their problem, for fear that they will be seen as admitting a weakness in character. We have all seen portrayals of alcoholics and addicts that are intended to be humorous or derogatory, and only reinforce the biases against people who have problems with substance abuse. Can you imagine this type of portrayal of someone who has a cardiac problem, or who happens to carry a gene that predisposes them to diabetes?

Yet it has been shown that some forms of addiction have a genetic basis, and we still try to hide the seriousness of this problem. We forget that someone who has a problem with drugs or alcohol can look just like the person we see in the mirror, or the person who is sitting next to us on a plane. In fact, it is unlikely that any of us have not experienced substance abuse within our families or our circle of friends.

The statistics concerning substance abuse are startling. In a recent article in *Scientific American*, December 1996, it was reported that excessive alcohol consumption is estimated to cause more than 100,000 deaths in the United States each year. Of these deaths, 24 percent are due to drunken driving, 11 percent are homicides, and 8 percent are suicides. Alcohol contributes to cancers of the esophagus, larynx, and oral cavity, which account for 17 percent of the deaths. Strokes related to alcohol use account for another nine percent of deaths. Alcohol causes several other ailments such as cirrhosis of the liver. These ailments account for 18 percent of the deaths.

We know that alcohol and other drugs contribute to other problems as well. Addictive substances have the potential for destroying the person who is addicted, their family and their other relationships. In a 1993 Report to Congress on Alcohol and Health, the Secretary of Health and Human Services